THE KENTUCKY COLONEL

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H O N O R R O L L

The following students had an average of "B" or better for the first marking period, and, as last year, they need not report to study hall. They are permitted to prepare their work independently.

Emma Jean Chapman
Hazel Smith
Elsie Willard
Flonnie Howard
Alice Napier
Raymond Seaver
Evelyn Willard
Claudia Dotson
Amon Greer
Lucille Huddleston
Magdalene Parsons
Louise Rogers
Jessie Brown
Oral Miller
Anna Sue Cochran
Herman Davis
Joanna Pennington
Leland Lutes

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Billie Jean Clerk
Richard McDowell
Neveline Huddleston
Louis Knipp
Betty Jean Greene
Anna Rose Ratliff

P L A Y D A Y

(The First in the History of the K. S. B.)

Ever since Mr. Langan came to us as our superintendent, our boys have been participating in activities with boys of other schools for the blind, but the general feeling around here was that the girls were "neglected". Mr. Langan had been planning for a regular "Play Day" week-end for us, but such an event did not seem to interest other schools in many neighboring states. Finally, after the plan had been suggested several years, two schools accepted Mr. Langan's invitation. These were the schools in Illinois and in Missouri, and each sent five girls to represent their state. From Illinois came Joan Weathers, Wanda Sikora, Alberta Krzywonos, Rose Dent and Elizabeth Doonan. Mr. Jack Hartong, the principal of the school, accompanied them. Missouri sent Evelyn Davis, Joy Gilpin, Doris Meyer, Deloris Morris and Mary Wilkerson; and their chaperon was Miss Anna Mae Howell, one of their teachers. Five girls from K. S. B. were chosen, too; and these five participated in the special events, although all the girls in the school were present at the social functions. Our chosen girls were Anna Sue Cochran, Joanna Pennington, Rufena Randles, Billie Jean Clark and Joan Britt.

The "big" day we had been looking forward to for so long was Friday, November 4. That afternoon, about two o'clock, the group from Missouri arrived by bus; and two hours later we welcomed the visitors from Illinois. It was fun meeting these

girls from other schools, and making them comfortable in our dormitories and introducing them to everyone.

Activities began that evening with a reception in the Blue Room so that all might become better acquainted. At this time, beautiful compacts were presented to all the chosen girls as a token of the occasion.

Saturday morning's activities started with a tour of the Printing House. Here the girls learned many things which will enable them to be more appreciative of their braille typewriters, slates and books. When we returned to the school, a "Talent Show" was given in our auditorium. On this program, in which all three schools were represented, were piano and violin solos, singing, and public speaking. As a welcome to the visiting girls, two of our girls wrote words to the tune of "Three Blind Mice", and this was sung as a round at the close of the program.

The afternoon was begun with a quiz program -- and what a quiz program it was! We had such questions as: "What word does a woman like best?" "What lady does a man dislike?" "What is it a man doesn't have but can give to a woman?" "When is it likely to rain money?" Can you figure them out?

If you had accompanied us on our scavenger hunt that followed this quiz program, you would probable think the planners of this event rather eccentric, for here are some of the things we were asked to find: A lamp wick, a baby's left shoe, a dog biscuit, a red sweet potato, half-cup of sand, a small lump of coal, etc., etc. But it was fun running all over the campus trying to get as many things as possible.

A wiener roast was given to all the high school students at our grill. This, being down the hill from the main building, made the visiting girls say they almost preferred climbing the Rocky Mountains!

That evening a dance was given for the whole school. Afterwards, refreshments of doughnuts, cookies and apple cider were served. Then off to bed for a well-deserved rest.

Sunday morning meant the departure of the girls we had grown so fond of in such a very short time. Friendships were formed that, we hope, will continue for years and years. All in all, we had an inexpressibly good time, and we are looking forward to this "Play Day" as an annual affair.

Joan Britt
10th Grade

THE MUSIC BOX

Our music department is in its usual state of activity, everyone being engaged with his own duties. Futhermore, since

the installation, last year, of our new electronic organ, even more opportunities for advancement are present. It is also encouraging to observe that a number of students who had terminated their musical studies years ago are now taking them up once again. All in all, the department is becoming more progressive as the years go by.

A number of important musical programs have been attended by our students. On October 27, two groups heard the afternoon and evening performances by the United States Navy Band. The programs were varied, and everyone enjoyed the two concerts immensely.

On the following evening--Friday, October 28--another group went to the Masonic Home to hear a program given by Pechee King and his cowboy band. The next concert, on November 3, was one given by the Louisville Philharmonic Orchestra. On this program was the world premier of a new piano concerto by Claude Almand of the University of Louisville faculty.

A performance of the Hungarian String Quartet was attended on November 11.

Finally, some of the students heard a concert of the Louisville Philharmonic Society's "Making Music Series," the subject of which was "The American Pageant". The music attempted to tell the story of the growth of the new country in North America from the time of the Pilgrims to the time just after the Civil War. One of the highlights of this program was the wonderfully orchestrated Indian War Dance by MacDowell.

The student chorus is preparing for its Christmas program, which includes a cantata and a group of carols. This will be given on Monday evening, December 19.

Mr. Samuel Richie has organized a male chorus, which is now engaged in learning a few Christmas carols. I am sure that we who are in the male chorus will have a good time singing for a few of Mr. Richie's friends when Christmas arrives.

Louis Knipp
10th Grade

SCOUT NEWS

During these first few weeks of school, scouting has moved along very rapidly. Several boys have signed up for advancements in rank. This year there will be a new record set, in our thirty-nine years of scouting, in the number of scouts to appear before the "Court of Honor". The largest number in the past was about sixteen or seventeen, but this year there will be approximately twenty-three boys.

On September 24, the Senior Patrol went to Camp Covered Bridge for the night. While there they discussed the activities

in which the scouts should participate, and one of them was that we shall join the movement called, "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty". This national movement in scouting has been in existence since 1948, 1948, but we decided to wait until 1950 before joining because it will be then that we will commemorate our fortieth year in scouting. This movement was originated mainly to get young boys interested in scouting, and to encourage the older ones to advance in rank.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Herman Davis upon becoming a Star Scout. We have five boys who hope to be first-class scouts by Christmas, thirteen trying for second class, and five new ones coming into the troop.

Richard McDowell
10th Grade

D R A M A T I C C L U B

The first item under consideration for the members of the K.S.B. Dramatic Club was the election of officers. In very close balloting Rufona Randles was elected president. The other officers are Herman Davis, vice president; Oral Miller, secretary; and Kenneth Howard, treasurer. A Board of Advisors was also selected, this group consisting of two members from each class. They are Leland Lutes and Herman Davis, seniors; Oral Miller and Robert M. Johnson, juniors; Joan Britt and Richard McDowell, sophomores; Louise Rogers and Bill Stanley, freshmen; and Ben Robinson from the eighth grade. The job of the board is to assist Miss M. Blye Allan, the club's director, in choosing plays and programs to be presented later by the club.

Oral Miller
11th Grade

S P O R T S

The annual game of Philadelphia Kick between the K.S.B. students and the Graybeards was the first event to arouse the interest of our athletes. Spirit was high among our team because the Graybeards were heavy favorites to win this year's classic. It was an agreed fact that our team was generally outclassed; therefore, we knew that we should have to kick, run, and field to the best of our ability.

Sunday, October 30, was the date on which the game was to be played; however, due to a very light drizzle only our team showed up for the game. The weather was too wet and cold for the "old men". Upon conferring with the coach of the Graybeards our team decided that the opponents should be made to forfeit the game to us by the score of 7 to 0. Of course, since all of the Graybeards didn't turn out for the game, they protested that the game should be replayed the following Sunday. Captain Herman Davis polled our squad and discovered that they wanted

to play the game then; so it was scheduled for the following week-end.

Much boasting went on before the game because the Graybeards were sure they would win. In order to show them who had the better team, our boys decided that they would have to fight hard all the way. The Graybeards were able to get to the game the following week. That Sunday was nice and warm.

The actual game went along faster and smoother than anyone had expected because the school boys came up with a sparkling defense. Of course, the defense of the Graybeards was also very good. The school boys drew first "blood" when Bill Stanley raced home with the first run in the fourth inning. The Graybeards struck back in the top half of the fifth inning with one run. The youngsters, the school boys, came back in the last half of the fifth inning when Captain Herman Davis and Oral Miller crossed the plate with two more runs. The game then went along smoothly until the top of the seventh, when the "old men" came to life with two runs. We knew that we must put across another run in the last half of that seventh inning. Due to a very close and "unfavorable" call by the umpire, we were unable to get that one needed run. The top of the eighth inning was rather short because the Graybeards were retired in 1-2-3 order. Ben Robinson led off the last of the eighth with a base hit. Two plays later he raced across the plate with the winning run.

It was agreed by both teams that the forfeited game would not count in the standing of either team because that game did not prove who had the better team. The 4 to 3 victory by the school was the closest and most interesting game ever played since the beginning of the rivalry.

The next item on our schedule was to get ready for wrestling season. Under the direction of Mr. Ben Johnson, our former coach who returned after an absence of two years, we immediately started preparing for our first wrestling meet of the 1949-50 season.

Approximately ten boys came out for the first practice drills. This year's team lacks only two of last year's men, Edison Womack and Jim Scoggins. Both graduated last June. Our grappling team this season will be made up chiefly of veterans. Herman Davis will do a splendid job in filling the vacancy left by Jim Scoggins.

December 10th will find us traveling to Little Rock, Arkansas, for a meet with the Arkansas School for the Blind. That will be a close match because Arkansas always comes up with fine teams.

The next edition of The Kentucky Colonel will carry the score of this match. It will also have the outcome of the rest of the matches.

Oral Miller
11th Grade

CLUB NOTES

THE GREEN FRESHMEN

Since we are in the first year of high school, the freshman class thought it would be nice to form a club. The boys suggested this plan, and it was greeted with enthusiasm. Our first meeting was on October 8. We thought "The Green Freshmen" would be a good name for our club, because that is what we are. We elected Alma Jean White as the president since we had no "green" to choose! She has been doing a wonderful job.

At present all the members of our class are in the club, and we hope it will stay that way. The purpose of our club is not only to have fun, but also to help each one get better acquainted with all our fellow class members and to learn to cooperate with one another.

We hope our club can continue, and I'm sure that it will if everyone continues to keep up his interest. I think we can make this freshman class one of the outstanding classes of this school, and I know every one of our members thinks so, too. A club will help us to be united in things we do.

Louise Rogers
9th Grade

MUSIC APPRECIATION CLUB

On October 17 a group of music students assembled with Mr. Hobbs for our first meeting of the Music Club. We have no other name for it as yet. It is to help us get a background of music, and to learn something about the famous composers and their styles of composition. We are going through the history of music from the beginning, and we find it very interesting.

We have seven members in this club, including Mr. Hobbs. That is not a large number; but we all love music, and our sincere interest in our club offsets the small membership. Mr. Hobbs has a wonderful collection of records which he plays to give us ideas of some of the composers, and he tells things in a very interesting way. I think our club will continue to be interesting, and I am certain we will all know much more at the end of the year than we do now.

Louise Rogers
9th Grade

CHORUS CLUB

The Chorus Club, this year, has the largest membership of any club in the K.S.B. There are forty members, and each one determined that the club shall be more active this season than ever before. Arthur Johnson, our president, takes his office

very seriously and is one of the most efficient leaders we have ever had. Richard McDowell, a new member of the chorus and club was elected vice-president, and thus far, has filled his position quite well. The secretary, Joanna Pennington and the treasurer, Oral Miller, were reelected. Four of the most alert and energetic members of the club were chosen for the program committee, so we should see a great deal of action before the school year is far spent.

Soon after the club officers were elected, the program committee announced that the first social was a dance, to be held on October 29. It is not enough to say that we had a dance, for it was one of the best-planned social events ever held in our school. There was no high spot in the evening. It was all so packed full of original games and stunts to keep everyone dancing that there was no time for a lag. On behalf of the Chorus Club, I should like to thank Joan Britt, Jean Green, Jerry Cameron, and Herman Davis, the members of the committee, for their time and effort, without which, there could never have been such a delightful evening.

Joanna Pennington
12th Grade

SENIOR CLASS

This year the ambitious seniors decided to do something quite different from anything which had ever been done at the M.S.B. On September 26, they organized their class making Herman Davis, president, Arthur Johnson vice-president, Anna Sue Cochran secretary, Bert Ellis treasurer, and Joanna Pennington, Rufena Randles, Deland Eutes and Jack Perry the committee of ways and means. After much thought and consideration the class decided the purpose of this organization should be to promote a feeling of congenial fellowship between the seniors and all the underclassmen as well as to furnish enjoyment for themselves.

The class made a very successful stride toward achieving its purpose when it sponsored a party for all the students in Junior and senior high. The ice was indeed broken when it was announced that the freshmen were to be initiated. As the results of a great deal of hard work and skillful planning on the part of the ways and means committee, this party was truly a great success. On behalf of all who attended the party, I want to thank the ways and means committee for making possible such a delightful evening.

Anna Sue Cochran
12th Grade.

S T A T E - W I D E F I R E D R I L L

It was a rather warm October day. We were seated in the auditorium while Mr. Langan was speaking.

"Radio Station WHAS is going to have a program which will probably interest most of you. As you know, this is Fire Prevention Week. WHAS has planned a program for today starting at 9 o'clock this morning. It will last for fifteen minutes, and during this time a fire drill bell will be rung. We, like all the other schools in the state, will have a drill at that time.

We knew just about what to expect. There would be the usual fire alarm (only this time it would come over the air); ther would be the usual patter of feet, and the enthusiasm of children who would soon walk quickly (but not run) out the doors.

Every classroom had its own radio. The program was very interesting and we listened to it with open minds. At approximately 9:27 there was the bell. We hurried out the doors -- each and every one of us -- into the yard. We found out later that photographers from "LIFE" magazine had taken pictures of this drill. One picture was of a class leaving the room and going down the nearest steps to the first floor. Another, taken after the drill, was of boys and girls standing on the second-floor platform of the fire escape, and the third picture showed two boys as they came sliding out of the fire escape. I wonder if we shall see these pictures in "LIFE" some time soon!

This program, with its drill, was a wonderful thing. It should be given every year during Fire Prevention Week. It is always a good feeling to know that it is just a drill and not a real fire.

Raymond Seaver
8th Grade

A LETTER

(OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION)

November 8, 1949

Dear Mr. Langan,

We should like to express to you our appreciation for the wonderful week-end that you and the faculty made possible, but we find it very difficult. Everything went along perfectly. We realize that this event took a lot of work on your part and also on the part of the teachers.

You have done so many wonderful things for our benefit that it seems such a little thing just to say "Thank you"; but when we say it, it comes from the bottom of our hearts. Sometimes we may seem very unappreciative to you, but we are always conscious of the fact that you are behind all the good things that happen to dear old K. S. B.

Sometimes it takes just such an event as we had over the week-end to make us know what a wonderful school we have. There is no other school in the world like K.S.B., and no other superintendent as good and more beloved.

Again, let us say "Thank you" from the bottom of our hearts for this special event. We hope we displayed our southern hospitality in a manner that was pleasing to you and to all those who made such an enjoyable time possible for us.

Sincerely yours,

Fourth-Floor Girls
of the K.S.B.

3815 Magnolia Ave.,
St. Louis, Missouri
November 13, 1949

Dear Mr. Langan,

Please do not think that our failure to write more promptly is an expression of displeasure concerning our visit. We had a very enjoyable time.

It is impossible to tell you about the fun we had participating in each individual activity. One thing, however, impressed us very much. This was the fine group spirit which prevailed among the students. From the moment we arrived, we felt quite at home.

We are so glad that, at last, the girls are being allowed to become acquainted with those of other states. When and if the girls from your school are permitted to come and visit us, we hope that we will be able to extend to them the warm hospitality which we found at Kentucky.

Yours very truly,

Evelyn Davis
Mary Wilkerson
Doris Meyer
Deloris Morris
Joy Gilpin
(Students of the Missouri School for the Blind)

FRESHMAN INITIATION

(A NEW EVENT AT THE H. S. D.)

For a few days following the treasure hunt of November 18, there was quite a bit of excitement in school. The Reason? The freshmen were initiated on that eventful night immediately after the hunt, and the next few days afforded fun for everyone.

We were very affectionate during those days, but it was just because we were told to say "I love you" in Latin by the seniors, and we dared not disobey. We also may have been seen kneeling in the halls reading poetry to the seniors. We had a book of it at all times, and I hope the seniors enjoyed hearing us read.

Girls were seen with their hair put up on top of their heads in a rubber band, and their dresses were on wrong side out and backwards. A black stocking and a white anklet were not uncommon things, either. The boys went into the cooking industry with aprons on. A pretty red ribbon around their hair made them much more attractive; and shirts on backwards with ties down the back were just the thing. Was the red on their faces a blush or make-up?! Perhaps it was both.

We enjoyed this initiation, even though it was silly-looking. It is a new thing in the H.S.D., and we hope it will be an established custom for years to come.

Louise Rogers
9th Grade

AN INSIGHT INTO THE LIFE OF A CANE

The following letter, written to a "friend," apparently was lost before it reached its destination. If any reader has a friend bearing the same name as the writer of this letter, he may consider that the letter was written to him.

1867 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville 6, Kentucky
September 29, 1949

Dear Friend,

One morning about two weeks ago, I was taken over by a most inexperienced hand. The fingers were tense, and the hand gripped my unpretentious crook as if the very life of its owner depended upon breaking my neck. It didn't break my neck, but my spirit was almost broken beyond repair.

It was a lovely day, and I felt like an easy stroll through the multicolored leaves of fall, dancing gracefully along on the ground before the soft breeze. My mistress, however,--for my new owner was a girl--had other plans. I soon found myself being

tapped, much against my wishes, along the pavement on Frankfort Avenue. This was not too bad at first, but the grass between the street seemed to call to me, to tell me that it was a much cooler, softer place to walk than was the disagreeable pavement. At length, the temptation became too great. I would have my stroll through the grass no matter what my mistress might say. However , no sooner had my tip touched the grass than that already tense hand gripped my crook even tighter, and I felt myself thrown rudely back to the left shoreline where I came in sharp contact with a most unfriendly stone wall. Whatever was this new mistress trying to do to me! I was expected to guide this ungentle creature and protect her from harm! Ah well, such is the life of a cane. That fatal morning when I was taken from the shop, I was bright and shiny, and I knew that before the venture was over, I should be dented and scarred, and afterwards, be put on a hook to suffer the night through with a most dreadful crookache.

Well, I lived through that day and several more similar ones. I know this is surprising, but I suppose I am made of stronger metal than most canes. During these horrible days, I had aches and pains not only in my crook, but all the way down to the tip of my shiny countenance. One morning, however, I was pleasantly surprised when the hand that grasped me seemed somewhat more relaxed than before. From that morning on, my work has been less trying, and I have even enjoyed my stroll once. We have ventured into the city together upon one occasion, and though my mistress was a little tense with the new situation, I no longer believe her completely hopeless. If I am patient enough, long enough, I feel sure that she will, some day, allow me to guide her safely and easily through crowded streets and milling throngs of people.

Very sincerely yours,

Susanne la Cane

V I S I T O R S

DID YOU SEE:

James Scoggins when he stopped here to say "hello" as he was on his way to Boston? His parents were driving him to Perkins Institution and the Massachusetts School for the Blind, where he is taking a course in piano tuning.

Artie Smith, who left school a few years ago? She visited us one Sunday when she came to Louisville with relatives. Artie has been staying home, helping her mother.

Brownlow Oliver? He was a visitor in school for a few minutes before going to Bowling Green, where he is now operating a stand. He had come to the city to have a conference with Mr. Cox before accepting this new work.

Edison Womack during the week-end of October 14? He is now living in Detroit with his mother and brother. In a short time he expects to be employed in a piano factory there.

Ernest Hutchison -- in the building every day? We are glad to have him here for a course in piano tuning.

Sam Begley one day recently? He had been working in Indiana, but he gave up that job to go home so he could help his brothers.

FACULTY NOTES

When, on September 12, K.S.B. opened, the returning students found the juniors and seniors, who had come back a week early to begin their classes in the city schools, struggling against nature, trying to throw themselves back into the routine of regular school life. It was not long, however, before the picnics, hikes, and swimming parties became only memories, not topics for discussion.

Upon returning to school, many students were keenly disappointed to learn that Miss Nancy McClaskey, the home economics teacher, was not to be with us this year. However, the delightful sense of humor and warm personality of Mrs. Eva Barrett, who is taking Miss McClaskey's place, are fast making their imprint upon the hearts of all. Mrs. Barrett, a graduate of Manitoba University, is originally from Winnipeg, Canada. Her more recent home was in Minneapolis, and she came to us from there, to teach while her husband is studying at the Baptist Seminary here in Louisville,

We are happy to welcome back an old member of our faculty. Mr. Roy Haynes, who left us several years ago for another position, must have gotten homesick; for, though it took him a number of years, he finally found his way back to the old home base.

Mr. L. P. Howser, Asst. Supt. of the Kentucky Workshop for the Adult Blind, has taken his place in our circle as Acting Principal. Mr. Howser, for years, has been a much-liked and much-respected personality, and we are proud to consider him one of our faculty.

Mr. Ben Johnson, former coach of our wrestling and track teams, returned this year to assume his old position. This time, however, he brought along his pretty, three-year-old daughter and his attractive young wife, who is in charge of the boys cottage. It goes without saying that Mr. Johnson was eagerly welcomed, and his wife and daughter lend a touch of cheer to any solemnity which they might encounter.

Last, but by no means least important, our superintendent's wife, Mrs. Langan, has joined the faculty. Besides acting as reader to several of the students who attend the city schools,

she also teaches a number of classes in both high school and elementary grades.

Anna Sue Cochran
Joanna Pennington
12th Grade

Announcements

Many of our students and readers will regret to learn of the retirement of Dr. Robert B. Irwin, after twenty-six years as Executive Director of the American Foundation for the Blind. Dr. Irwin leaves a host of admirers among his fellow workers in the field of work for the blind. Mr. M. Robert Barnett of Florida succeeded Dr. Irwin as Executive Director of the Foundation of September 1, 1949.

Dr. Harry Best, author of the book THE BLIND and professor of sociology at the University of Kentucky was a recent visitor at the school. Dr. Best's text has been regarded as one of the best research projects in our field since its publication thirty years ago.

Miss Marjorie Hooper, Braille Editor of the American Printing House for the Blind, will leave Louisville on December 11 to take part in the UNESCO Braille Advisory Committee meeting in Paris, France, December 15-21. Miss Hooper, in addition to being a member of the AAIB Braille Committee for many years, has contributed several statistical studies on standard and uniform braille.

Mrs. Maria V. Francisco from the School for the Blind in Rizal City, Philippines, spent a day at the school recently observing our teaching methods. Mrs. Francisco is in the United States on a United Nations Fellowship.

December 10---Wrestling Meet, at the Arkansas School, Little Rock.

December 15---Girl Scout Party, at school, in the Blue Room

December 17---Christmas Dance

December 18---Christmas Student Party

December 19---Christmas Carol Program, 8 P.M. school auditorium

December 21---Christmas Vacation begins

January 3-----End of vacation; children return to Louisville.

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